

REMARKS

Claims 47-89 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 47-55, drawn to a biochip assembly having releasable means for each port and well for reception of removable separate enclosed transfer conduits, classified in class 436, subclass 514; and

Group II, claim 56, drawn to a biochip assembly with two sets of reservoir wells, classified in class 435, subclass 287.4; and

Group III, claims 57-65, drawn to a biochip assembly, classified in class 422, subclass 63; and

Group IV, claims 66-78, drawn to a biochip assembly, classified in class 435, subclass 283.1; and

Group V, claims 79-89, drawn to a method of conducting a biological cell assay, classified in class 435, subclass 4.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 47-55.

Traversal

Applicants respectfully submit that a serious burden has not been placed on the Examiner to consider all of the claims in a single application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his restriction and act on all of the claims in the present application. If the Examiner persists in his restriction requirement, Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to claims 56-89 at a later date if they so desire.

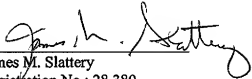
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Carl T. Thomsen, Registration No. 50,876, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

- ☐ Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.
- ☐ Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: March 24, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
James M. Slattery
Registration No.: 28,380
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant